

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the abstract with the following amended abstract:

~~This invention is directed to~~ Methods of predicting bone or joint disease in a  
subject are presented. ~~The invention is also directed to~~ The method may include  
determining one or more micro-structural parameters, one or more macroanatomical  
parameters or biomechanical parameters of a joint in the subject. At least two of the  
parameters are combined to predict the risk of bone or articular disease. Additionally,  
methods of determining the effect of a candidate agent on any subject's risk of developing  
bone or joint disease are presented.